

Message Text

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PAGE 01 PRETOR 03943 130644Z
ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05
H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02
SS-15 ICA-11 HA-05 /095 W
-----120990 141334Z /43

R 121550Z JUL 78
FM AMEMBASSY PRETORIA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1712
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM
AMEMBASSY GABORONE
AMEMBASSY LAGOS
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA
AMEMBASSY MAPUTO
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
AMEMBASSY PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L PRETORIA 3943

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINT, SHUM, WA
SUBJECT: NAMIBIA: COMMENTS BY DIRK MUDGE

1. ACCORDING TO PRESS REPORTS, JULY 12, DIRK MIDGE, SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE DEMOCRATIC TURNHALLE ALLIANCE IN A PUBLIC STATEMENT ON JULY 11, SAID THAT IF NO AGREEMENT WAS REACHED IN THE CURRENT TALKS IN LUANDA, THE AG WOULD HAVE TO GO AHEAD WITH THE ELECTION. MUDGE SAID THAT THE PEOPLE OF NAMIBIA WERE UNCERTAIN ABOUT THE FUTURE AND IT WAS ABSOLUTELY NECESSARY THAT AN AGREEMENT BE REACHED IN THE CURRENT TALKS BETWEEN THE FIVE WESTERN POWERS AND SWAPO. MUDGE SAID HE PERSONALLY WANTED SWAPO TO PARTICIPATE IN THE ELECTION.

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2. COMMENT: MUDGE'S STATEMENT TOGETHER WITH RECENT EDITORIALS ON THE SUBJECT (JOHANNESBURG PRESS ROUND UPS JULY 11, 12) IN THE AFRIKAANS PRESS SUGGEST THE POSSIBILITY THAT THE AG WILL PROCEED IN THE NEAR TERM WITH ANNOUNCEMENT OF AN ELECTION DATE SHOULD THE LUANDA MEETING FAIL TO PRODUCE AGREEMENT. OUR GUESS REPEAT GUESS WOULD BE THAT THE SAG WILL WAIT FOR THE WESTERN COUNTRIES TO REPORT ON THE

LUANDA MEETING AND UNLESS THERE IS PROSPECT OF A
SETTLEMENT, WILL PROCEED, POSSIBLY SOMETIME IN AUGUST,
TO ANNOUNCE AND ELECTION DATE. THIS WOULD BE CONSISTENT
WITH THE SAG STRATEGY OF MAINTAINING THE POLITICAL
INITIATIVE AND KEEPING PRESSURE ON SWAPO WHILE STILL
ASSERTING SOUTH AFRICA'S WILLINGNESS TO IMPLEMENT THE
WESTERN PLAN.
EDMONDSON

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Approved on Date:
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Disposition Reason:
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